

**HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE**  
**Friday 18 October 2024**



Dear Parents,

I would like to thank you all for the support shown at this year's harvest festivals. It was fabulous that so many of you joined us for these services, and we hope you enjoyed the readings, singing and prayers that the children presented. We were overwhelmed with your generous food offerings which were distributed to the Lockwood Day Care Centre, two local care homes and the food bank at the Waypoint Hub. We were also extremely grateful for your kind donations at the end of the services. We raised £331.82 which was added to the sponsorship money we received for walking the Test Way. The grand total was £1442 and this has been donated to the Sophie's Legacy charity and Dreamflight.

**Poppy Appeal** - Poppies and other Remembrance items will be on sale in school from next Monday, **21 October**. Items are available for the suggested minimum donation below. Please ensure your child has the **correct money** as no change can be given.

|             |     |               |     |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|
| Poppy       | 20p | Festival Band | 50p |
| Zipper Pull | 20p | Key Ring      | 50p |
| Wrist Band  | 50p | Pin Badge     | £1  |

**Secondary School Applications** - Reminder that Year 7 applications for a secondary school place are currently being accepted via the Hampshire Admissions online portal and the deadline for applications is midnight on **Thursday 31st October 2024**. (<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions>)

**Reception September 2025 Tours** - We are conducting individual tours of the school for any parents whose children are due to start in September 2025. In addition to this we will be holding Open Afternoons on **Wednesday 23 October & Thursday 7 November** at 1:45pm. If you know anyone with a child due to start next September please ask them to contact the school office for further details.

**PTFA Fireworks Bake Sale** – On **Friday 8 November** the PTFA are holding a **Fireworks Bake Sale**. Got a flair for baking? Light up the bake sale with your delicious creations! We're inviting all students to bake and bring in their firework-themed cakes, cookies, and treats for our PTFA Fireworks Themed Bake Sale. There will be a prize for the best baker in every year group so get creative and let your baking skills sparkle and shine!

**Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 10 November** - We will be joining with St Mary's Church and the Warsash community in remembering those who fought and lost their lives in times of conflict. We would like to invite children and their families into school on the morning of **Sunday 10 November** for a short service of Remembrance and creative activities. This will begin at approximately **10.30am**, following the wreath laying at the war memorial in the village. We look forward to welcoming many of you into school for this important annual event.

**School Photos** – "Yellow" School Photographers will be in school on **Tuesday 12 November** to take Individual pupil photos.

**Christmas Services** - Christmas Services will take place later this term in St Marys Church. As usual we would like to invite you to join us at these special events. The dates and times are:

|                                      |                         |                        |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Infants <b>Tuesday 17 December</b>   | 9.30am – P, 1H, 2D      | 10.45am - T, 1J, 2H    |
| Juniors <b>Wednesday 18 December</b> | 9.30am – 3B, 5G, Y4, Y6 | 10.45am 3H, 5H, Y4, Y6 |

**Day Closures** - There will be INSET days on **Friday 31 January 2025, Friday 4 April 2025 and Friday 11 July 2025**. One further date is still to be agreed and we will inform you of this as soon as possible.

**Shoebox Appeal** –We are collecting shoeboxes again this year for the Operation Christmas Child initiative and Half Term is an ideal time to fill your box. This will be explained to children in Collective Worship on Monday and we will then send home further details about this.

**Mobile Phones** – We would like to bring your attention to Smartphone Free Childhood which is a movement of parents who believe childhoods are too short to be spent on a smart phone. Growing numbers of parents are raising concerns over their children's internet access via smart phones and we are dealing with increasing numbers of incidents in school. We are finding that more and more parents are purchasing smartphones for their children through peer pressure, rather than an actual desire for them to have one. I would encourage you to look at the attached information and to consider signing the parent pact which could support in reversing the current trend.

**Data Collection Forms** – These forms have now been sent out to the whole school. If you have not received yours please contact the school office. We ask that you check ALL the details thoroughly (especially email addresses and contact numbers), make amendments where necessary, sign and date and return to the school office as soon as possible. If there is only one contact on your sheet please can you provide a second, we are legally required to have a

minimum of two contacts for each child. **Please be aware that this must be done for every child and we will keep chasing until all forms have been returned.** There may also be other forms enclosed that we have not previously had returned that also need completing.

**Aspens Theme Day** – The caterers will be providing a special menu on **Thursday 21 November** entitled **Sparkle Spectacular**. On this day your child will be able to choose from the options below. Please order your child's meal via the online Aspens Select website.

- Blazing Bonfire Bangers, Sweet potato wedges & rainbow slaw
- Quorn Blazing Bonfire Bangers, Sweet potato wedges & rainbow slaw
- Jacket Potato, Cheese &/or Beans or Tuna
- Hot Pasta topped with Homemade Tomato sauce & Cheese

**Tesco Blue tokens** - Tesco Stronger Starts is committed to providing over £5m each year to fund healthy food and activities for schools and children's groups in local areas. Vote now in **Tesco Express Warsash Road and Fareham Whiteley Superstore for Hook with Warsash C of E Academy PTFA** by picking up a blue token at the till and dropping it into the Tesco Stronger Starts voting box as you leave.

**Abandoned Uniform** - The site team are finding lots of coats/jumpers/hoodies on the grounds that have been ruined by either chewing or fox excrement. At lunchtimes everything is collected in so this is happening after school if they are playing in the playground. Please make sure your child has their belongings with them when you go home.

**Vacancy – Cleaner** - Two counties currently have a vacancy for an immediate start of 2 hour per day 4pm-6pm, Monday – Friday for 39 weeks a year. Please contact Lisa at Two Counties on 07387016927 for further information.

Yours sincerely

*Sara Willoughby*

Sara Willoughby  
Headteacher

#### **Attachments:**

Holly Hill Swimming Lessons Flyer / Smartphone Free Childhood Flyer

#### **Next Week**

|              |               |                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                             |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Mon</b>   | <b>21 Oct</b> | Poppies & Remembrance items go on sale                                                                                      | KS1 Art Club 3:05/4:30pm                                                                                    |
| <b>Tue</b>   | <b>22 Oct</b> | HMS Music – Guitar                                                                                                          | Spanish Lunchtime<br>Y1/2 IDPE Dodgeball 3:30/4:30pm                                                        |
| <b>Wed</b>   | <b>23 Oct</b> | <b>Flu Nasal Vaccine – Whole School</b><br>HMS Music – Brass/Woodwind/Keyboard<br><b>New Year R 09/2025 Open Day 1:45pm</b> | Y4 Football Lunchtime<br>KS2 Art Club 3:15/5:00pm<br>Judo 3:15pm & 4:30pm<br>DT Club 3:30/4:30              |
| <b>Thurs</b> | <b>24 Oct</b> | Rock 2 the Beat                                                                                                             | X-Country Club 8:15am<br>French Lunchtime<br>Y5/6 Football (Girls) Lunchtime<br>Y5/6 Football (Boys) 3:30pm |
| <b>Fri</b>   | <b>25 Oct</b> | HMS Music Lessons – Drums<br><b>Y6 Swimming (Last one)</b>                                                                  | Y3/6 IDPE Dodgeball 3:30/4:30pm                                                                             |
| <b>Sun</b>   | <b>27 Oct</b> | <b>Don't forget to put your Clocks BACK!</b>                                                                                |                                                                                                             |

#### **Diary Dates**

| <b>28/10 – 01/11<br/>Half Term</b> |               | <b>Thursday 31 Oct – Y7 Application Portal Closes</b><br><b>Friday 1 Nov – YR Application Portal Opens</b> |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wed                                | <b>06 Nov</b> | Y6 Make £5 Grow Sale (Hall)                                                                                |
| Thurs                              | <b>07 Nov</b> | Open Day New Year R 09/2025 1:45pm                                                                         |
| Fri                                | <b>08 Nov</b> | PTFA “Fireworks” Cake Sale<br>Y5 Swimming Starts                                                           |
| Sun                                | <b>10 Nov</b> | Remembrance Service in School approx. 10:45am                                                              |
| Tues                               | <b>12 Nov</b> | Individual School Photos                                                                                   |
| Fri                                | <b>17 Nov</b> | Children In Need Dress Down Day (£1 donation)                                                              |
| Thurs                              | <b>21 Nov</b> | Theme Menu – Sparkle Spectacular                                                                           |
| Fri                                | <b>22 Nov</b> | PTFA Wreath Making                                                                                         |

|                      |               |                                                                                                 |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fri                  | <b>29 Nov</b> | PTFA Christmas Shopping Evening                                                                 |
| Sat                  | <b>07 Dec</b> | Christmas Fair                                                                                  |
| Tue                  | <b>17 Dec</b> | Infant Christmas Service    9.30am – P, 1H, 2D                      10.45am - T, 1J, 2H         |
| Wed                  | <b>18 Dec</b> | Junior Christmas Service    9.30am – 3B, 5G, Y4, Y6                      10.45am 3H, 5H, Y4, Y6 |
| Thurs                | <b>19 Dec</b> | School Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day<br>Rock2theBeat Concert                           |
| Fri                  | <b>20 Dec</b> | Last day of Autumn Term                                                                         |
| <b>23/12 – 05/01</b> |               | <b>Christmas Holiday</b>                                                                        |
| Tue                  | <b>06 Jan</b> | First day of Spring Term                                                                        |
| Wed                  | <b>15 Jan</b> | Deadline for New Year R 09/2025 Applications                                                    |
| Fri                  | <b>17 Jan</b> | Music Instalment due                                                                            |